



The Canal Zone Philatelist



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President's Report

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By the time that you read this the Washington-2006 World Philatelic Exhibition will have taken place and hopefully many of our members will have had a chance to attend.

New Canal Zone Study Group Website

Alan Benz did us a great favor in getting the first Canal Zone Study Group's website up and running eight years ago and now his pioneer work has been passed over to Tom Brougham. Earlier this year Tom started up a new website, www.canalzonestudygroup.com, with the intention of putting the

(continued on page 18)

2006 CZSG Mail Sale

Consignments for the 34th CZSG Mail Sale should be sent to arrive no later than June 26, 2006. Early submission of material is appreciated. The Sale will close on September 25, 2006.

An inventory list must accompany all consignments. Certificates are required for Scott #1, #2, #3 and #15.

Damaged or poor quality examples of lower value stamps, postal stationery and covers are respectfully declined and will be returned. If submitting large or odd-sized items, please send an inventory in advance or call (510) 843-2459 for approval.

Ship material insured or registered to:

Canal Zone Mail Sale

c/o Tom Brougham

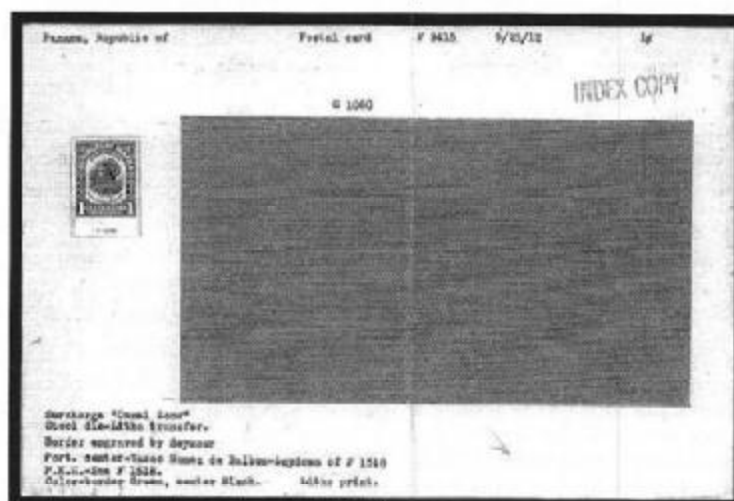
P. O. Box 1284

Berkeley, CA 94701

Panama Proof - UX4

BY Irwin J. Gibbs

Postal Stationery Editor



The Taft Agreement with Panama, provided the Canal Zone, Panama stamps and postal stationery at 40% of the face value.

In 1912 Panama changed postal stationery suppliers from the Hamilton Bank Note Company to the America Bank Note Company. Panama had no need for a one centesimo card and the Canal Zone did. It became necessary for the American Bank Note Company to design a one centesimo Panama Card

to be overprinted "Canal Zone" for use in the zone.

The postal card was to be similar to the Hamilton card (UX2) with the words "Canal Zone" incorporated into the vignette die. Thus a Panama card was prepared although never used in Panama. The Index Card and Die Proof on India, as pictured above, was approved by the Panama authorities before "Canal Zone" was incorporated into the die.

CZSG Regional Meeting:

APS StampShow 2006, Aug 24-27.
Study Group meeting: Sat. Aug. 26,
2pm, Stephens Convention Center,
Rosemount IL.

Articles Wanted...
Contact Editor

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**The Canal Zone
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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

**CANAL ZONE
STUDY GROUP
Northeastern Chapter
Organizational Meeting
by Judy Conroy**

The Northeastern CZSG meeting was held on 6 May at the Philatelic Show 2006 in Boxborough MA. It was the tenth annual meeting there, and the kick-off meeting for the newly organized Northeast Chapter.

Eight members attended. They were Bill Fall, Walter Paton, Bob Juneau, Jon Zurwell, Elwynn Miller, Michael Lupinski and Bill and Judy Conroy. Low attendance in part might have been illness, age, and high gasoline prices. A couple of new faces appeared in response to 100 postcards

sent out to Northeast members announcing the meeting.

The membership voted unanimously to establish the Northeast Chapter, and to carry on business by e-mail, with Acting President Bill Fall getting out a few articles of interest. Northeast members can send material to Bill Fall at wfall@hvc.rr.com. One of the first articles suggested was "My Canal Zone #2 on Cover", by Bill Conroy. Judy Conroy has taken on the task as recording secretary.

At the meeting Bill Fall gave one of his signature Power Point presentations. This one was entitled "Construction Era Town Sites in the Canal Zone". In it he showed post-

marks of all the recorded towns - many rarely heard of. A few, including Frijoles, has to be done from a book, since they were so rare. Besides the cancels, the show included postcard views of the towns, post offices, etc.

There was only one Canal Zone exhibit at Philatelic Show 2006. That was the air mail exhibit by Alan Bentz entitled "Cristobal CZ - Air Mail Hub to Latin America," which won a Vermeil award. Even more important, it was given the first ever MAPS - William F. Turner Memorial Award.

This should be an exciting year for the Northeast Chapter. Good luck to us!

Auctions

by Jim Crumpacker

This quarterly column, covering the public auction period from Jan. 1 through Mar. 31, 2006, reflects decent seasonal activity. The main event was the sale of the "Eagle" collection, an offering of such importance as to merit the separate report which appears elsewhere in this issue.

The other auction action was far from a total loss. Some rarities were available plus a good and varied number of covers.

As always, the results shown below have the final selling price of hammer plus commission shown first. That total is followed in parenthesis by the catalogue value from the 2006 *Scott's Specialized*.

- 1, OG, H, F \$311 (\$550) Harbour
- 2, F on F ppc Ancon 7/7/04 to Germany \$978 (\$240) Harbour
- 2, VF on F+ cover Ancon 7/9/04 to Panama \$230 (\$240) Harbour
- 3a, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, H, barely F \$748 (\$725) Harbour

12c, CANAL ZONE double, OG, H, F \$863 (\$700) Harbour

14b, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, H, VF \$551 (\$425) Harbour

15, trace of OG, H, VG-F \$2,530 (\$2,600) Harbour

22e, inverted center w/overprint reading up, used, creases and a few short perfs. o/w F-VF \$1595 (\$3500) Cherrystone

19, two F singles, one w/ bar at bottom, on VF cover Ancon 12/1/06 to NYC \$489 (\$n/a) Harbour

36a, 10 cts. inverted, OG, H, VF \$431 (\$325) Harbour

47, TG, H, barely F \$2990 (\$3250) Harbour

67, TG, H, F w/ a margin \$403 (\$500) Harbour

91c, ZONE CANAL, OG, H, F \$207 (\$175) Harbour

157a silver (bridge) omitted, OG, NH, VF, pn back gives plate pos. \$7793 (\$7500) Regency-Superior

J5, OG, NH, almost VF \$322 (\$225) Harbour

CO11, OG, H, VF+, no cancel of any kind (\$1955 (\$n/a) H.R. Harmer

O8 OG, H, VF+ \$805 (\$650) Harbour
UX4, XMAS card UPSS CS14, mint entire. VF+ \$492 (\$n/a) Harbour

- Zeppelin cover, Crist. 5/15/30 w/ F-VF CZ C1, C3, C4 and U.S. C13 added, via Havana and Lakehurst to

Friedrichshafen. Sieger 64-III \$1,553 (\$n/a) Harbour

- Zeppelin cover, Crist. 5/22/30 w/ F-VF CZ 95 and pair of C3, U.S. C14 added, via Lakehurst to Friedrichshafen \$1,985 (\$n/a) Harbour

The names and addresses of these few auction houses which offered the above lots are:

Cherrystone Philatelic Auctioneers

119 West 57th St.

New York, NY 10019

Harbour Auctions

1954 Greenspring Drive, LL18

Baltimore, MD 21093

HR- Harmer, Inc.

3 East 28th St., 7th Floor

New York, NY 10016

Regency-Superior

PO Box 8277

St. Louis, MO 63156-9277

Special Auction Report

by Jim Crumpacker

On March 16 the Matthew Bennett firm held an auction of the "Eagle" Possessions collection which included 275 Canal Zone lots.

The auction contained almost no large lots, remainder lots, or common material, leading to the reasonable conclusion that this was an investor's holding as opposed to a collection. However, a follow-up auction was held in May, also offered by Bennett, from the same owner involving another 200+ CZ lots which did include large/bulk lots plus many quality blocks and singles; a report on that Sale will appear in the next CZP.

Results from the March auction, which had much ex-Plass, Leeds, or Drucker material, were quite interesting. Some items sold for less than they had at the Plass auction in 1993. However, there were some spectacular realizations which leads one to believe that values for better Canal Zone stamps do stand on firm ground.

Shown below are a couple of dozen results. The first value given is the final auction price of hammer plus

commission and is followed by the catalogue value, in parenthesis, from the 2006 *Scott's Specialized*.

1, OG, H, VF \$748 (\$550)

2b, CANAL ZONE double, OG, H, F \$2,645 (\$2,250)

3 var., left PANAMA 2mm below bar, F on cover La Boca 7/11/04 to Colon, cover bit reduced o/w VF \$575 (\$n/a)

10a, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, NH, VF \$431 (\$225)

15 var., PANAMA 15mm long, OG, H, VF \$3,220 (\$2,750)

20c, 8 cts. omitted, OG, HR, XF \$1,035 (\$800)

21a, CANAL only, TG, H, XF, one copy in a horiz. str. of 3, \$6,025 (\$4,050)

22g, inverted center w/ overprint reading up, TG, H, XF \$14,950 (\$3,500)

23a, horiz. pair, imperf. between, OG, H, XF \$2,645 (\$2,000)

23g, inverted center and overprint reading up, used, rounded corner, chewed perfs., other problems, o/w F-VF \$21,850 (\$6,000)

27b, vert. pair, one w/o overprint, part OG, H, barely F w/ bottom margin \$4,600 (\$3,500)

36, F on cover w/ #33 added, regis-

tered from Culebra 5/17/14 to France, cover sl. reduced o/w VF \$403 (\$n/a)

39e, inverted center w/ overprint reading down, OG, H, XF \$834 (\$600)

40a, with Cordoba portrait of 2c, used, "minor small faults" \$10,350 (\$10,000)

55e, booklet pane of 6, OG, NR, VF (one tiny paper dimple) \$3,105 (\$1,750)

67, OG, H, VF+ \$431 (\$500)

76a, ZONE inverted, OG, H, F w/ nat. se \$3,738 (\$3,750)

157a, silver (bridge) omitted, OG, NH, VF, a pn gives plate position \$7,188 (\$7500)

J3, OG, H, almost VF \$1,380 (\$1,000)

J20a, vert. pair, one w/o overprint, OG, H, barely F \$3,738 (\$3,500)

U3, mint entire, VF \$978 (\$700)

UF1, (UPSS RI), mint entire, W \$1,553 (\$1,750)

UX6, used Balboa 7/30/24 to Ancon,

Recruit a New
CZSG Member

UNIFIED CANAL ZONE AIRMAIL RATES TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

by Tom Brougham

The following is a compilation of the later Canal Zone airmail rates to all foreign destinations.

Unlike their foreign surface rates, the Canal Zone's foreign airmail rates always differed from those of the U.S. Airmail rate changes for the U.S. and the C.Z. did not necessarily occur at the same time.

Explicit CZPO documentation of some of these rates is sketchy or missing.

This list is based on available Canal Zone Postal Service documents, or sources on U.S. rates such as: *U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996* by Wawrukiewicz and Beecher, and on observations of a large number of covers over many years.

For purposes of airmail rates, foreign destinations after 1946 (with one exception) were divided into only three large areas: 1) Western Hemisphere, 2) Europe and Mediterranean, and 3) Australasia, Asia and Sub-Sahara Africa.

While each of these areas had separate rates for letters, there was generally only one rate at a time for postcards and aerogrammes to all foreign destinations anywhere in the world.

Starting in October of 1946, a uniform airmail rate was established for Western Hemisphere destinations. Until sometime in 1974, postcards and aerogrammes addressed to the Western Hemisphere were charged the full letter rate. Only after 1974 were postcards and aerogrammes charged less than letters in the Western Hemisphere.

Until August of 1958 C.Z. airmail rates to foreign destinations in the rest of the world continued to be "compound." That is, the total C.Z. rate was the sum of the rate from the Canal Zone to the U.S. and the rate from the U.S. to the foreign destination. Starting in August 1958 unified rates for the whole way from the Zone to destinations in the rest of the world were established.

If you have any covers that appear inconsistent with the information in this list or augment it, please send an image to tom@canalzonestudygroup.com. This list will be updated periodically.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

All countries except USA & Panama. Mexico was included in this category starting immediately on 10/01/46 but Canada was not given the U.S. domestic airmail rates for letters and postcards until sometime in the early 1950's.

Envelopes

10¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 10/01/46

End: 06/30/61

Rate well-documented. Covers common.

15¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 07/01/61

Earliest seen: 08/23/61

End: after 04/20/71 & before 10/04/71

(Probable end: 06/30/71)

Rate well-documented. Covers common.

Postcards and Aerogrammes

10¢ (same as envelopes)

Start: 10/01/46

End: 06/30/61

Rate implied. Postcards seen.

15¢ (same as envelopes)

Start: 07/01/61

Earliest seen: 09/09/62

End: after 02/04/70 & before 10/04/71

(Probable end: 06/30/71)

No examples of postcards seen before January 1965;

no examples of aerogrammes seen before February 1970

(continued on next page)



The first 'unified' foreign airmail rate applied to Western Hemisphere destinations starting in late 1946. 10 cents per half ounce.



The short-lived 25-cent letter rate to the Western Hemisphere is here 'documented' by this short-paid cover. It was mailed with a 13-cent stamp and rated 24 cents due, double the 12-cent deficiency.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE AIRMAIL RATES Continued

20¢ per ½ ounce

Earliest seen: 10/04/71

(Probable start date: 07/01/71)

End: after 01/14/74 and before 3/17/75

(Probable end: 03/01/74)

Rate not well-documented. Covers common.

25¢ per ½ ounce

Earliest seen 03/17/75

(Probable start: 03/02/74; also possible
that greater than 2 oz at 20¢ per ½ ounce)

Latest seen: 12/08/75

End: 12/31/75

Rate not documented & covers infrequent

30¢ per ½ ounce Zone 1 (northern half)

(Canada, Mexico, Central America,
Colombia, Venezuela and Caribbean Islands)

35¢ per ½ ounce Zone 2 (southern half)

Start: 01/03/76

Earliest seen: 03/15/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of the Canal Zone)

Latest seen: 05/12/79

20¢ (same as envelopes)

Earliest seen: 10/15/71

(Probable start date 07/01/71)

End: after 01/14/74 and before 12/31/75

(Probable end: 12/30/75)

Not well-documented. Postcards seen.

22¢ All

Start: 01/03/76

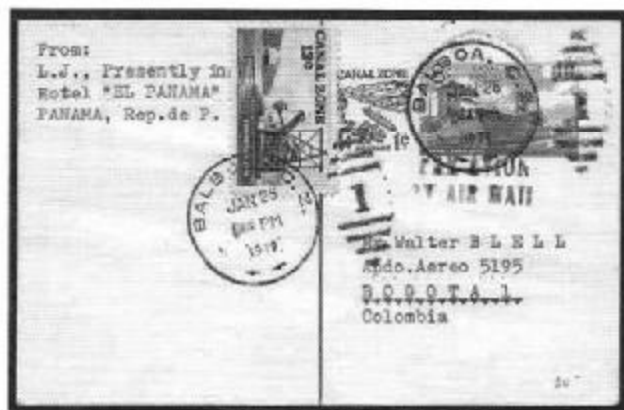
Earliest seen: 07/15/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of the Canal Zone)

Latest seen: 09/30/79



Starting January 1976, the Western Hemisphere was divided into two areas. The rate for most of South America became 35 cents per half ounce.



A 13-cent stamp uprates a 9-cent postal card to pay the last foreign postcard/aerogramme rate of 22 cents. This rate was in effect from January 1976 until the end of the Canal Zone.



The rate for Colombia, Venezuela, Caribbean Islands and all other foreign destination northward became 30 cents. Here a short-paid cover was returned for an additional 15 cents.

(continued on next page)

EUROPE & MEDITERRANEAN AREA

Also includes all the countries in northern Africa and the Middle Eastern with coasts on the Mediterranean

Envelopes

25¢ per ½ ounce; up to 1 oz, 20¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 08/01/58

Earliest seen 02/23/59

End: 06/30/61

Latest seen: 06/12/61

20¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 07/01/61

Earliest seen: 10/11/61

End: before 11/07/67

Latest seen: 03/15/67

25¢ per ½ ounce

Start: by 11/07/67

Earliest seen 11/07/67

End: 06/30/71

Latest seen: 06/23/71

30¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 07/01/71

Earliest seen: 08/02/71

End: 03/01/74

Latest seen: 12/21/73

35¢ per ½ ounce; up to 2 ounces, 30¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 03/02/74

Earliest seen: 04/03/74

35¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 01/03/76

Earliest seen: 03/30/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of Canal Zone)

Latest seen: 01/30/79



The 20-cent rate to Europe and Mediterranean Area paid nicely with a solo Golden Anniversary stamp.

Postcards and Aerogrammes

15¢

Start: 08/01/58

Earliest seen: 01/21/60

End: 06/30/71

Latest seen: 04/xx/68

Aerogrammes seen



The 15-cent rate applied to the Western Hemisphere starting July 1961. The example shown is on the CZPS-supplied aerogramme form

20¢

Start: by 01/26/72; possibly 07/01/71

Earliest seen: 01/26/72

End: 12/31/75

Latest seen: 12/24/75

Aerogrammes seen

22¢

Start: 01/03/76

Earliest seen: 11/07/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of Canal Zone)

Latest seen: 09/30/79

Aerogrammes seen



The foreign postcard/aerogramme rate increased to 20 cents in mid 1971.

(continued on next page)

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, ASIA AND SUB-SAHARA AFRICA

All rates appear to be uniform for this entire region. Australia and New Zealand destinations are regularly seen. Destinations to Asian countries are sparse. Sub-Saharan African destinations are not yet reported.

Envelopes

35¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 08/15/58

Earliest seen: 08/18/58

End: by 11/23/62; possibly as early as 06/30/61

Latest seen: 08/18/58

Covers rather scarce

30¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 07/01/61

Earliest seen: 11/23/62 (to India)

End: 01/02/76

Latest seen: 11/07/72

Covers to Australia and N. Z. relatively available

Four short-paid examples seen during period w/o postage due: 1) 20¢ to India 07/16/63, 2) 15¢ to Malaysia marked 'extra curricular' 11/30/65, 3) 20¢ to Australia 07/14/69, and 4) 15¢ to Australia marked 'card only' 05/03/71. Nine good examples of the 30¢ rate have been seen.

35¢ per ½ ounce

Start: 01/03/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of Canal Zone)

Earliest seen 05/20/76



Although long-lived, the 30-cent rate to the 'rest of the world' is uncommon. Here two 30-cent Williamson stamps pay a double weight letter to Northern Rhodesia.

Postcards and Aerogrammes

15¢

Start: 08/15/58

Earliest seen: 09/15/60

End: apparently 06/30/71

Latest seen: 05/06/73 maybe underpaid; otherwise latest is 10/08/69

Postcards relatively available

Aerogramme seen

20¢

Not yet seen but probable since otherwise postcards to Australia and Asia would be less than to nearer destinations

Probable start: 07/01/71

End: 01/02/76

22¢

Start: 01/03/76

Earliest seen: 05/06/76

End: 09/30/79 (end of Canal Zone)

Latest seen 05/02/79

Aerogrammes not seen



The rather-scarce 35-cent rate to the Pacific region and Asia lasted less than three years. Commercial solo use of 35-cent 'wing and globe.'

158th Regimental Combat Team (BUSHMASTERS) by Wayne Worthington

In other Canal Zone postal history articles, I have written about the U.S. Army's World War II organizational structure—the Triangular Concept. The Concept configured a combat division as composed of three fighting Regiments. But no divisions were assigned to the Canal Zone in WWII.

The Infantry Regiment was the core fighting unit in the WWII Army, but there were two exceptions to the divisional regiment. One exception was the non-divisional Separate Regiment. A hypothetical example would be an 8th Infantry Regiment (Separate). This unit would be organized like other Infantry Regiments, but was not associated with a specific Division. It could be assigned to any Division, as needed, to reinforce that Division for a period of time or a specific mission. It could also be assigned to an area or regional command for a variety of missions such as rear area security, lines of communication protection or a specific site protection such as a large radar farm or other vital installation. All of the Army Regiments assigned to the Canal Zone were non-divisional regiments assigned to regional commands such as U.S. Troops in Panama before 1917 or the Panama Canal Department after 1917. All of the assigned Regiments in the Canal Zone were non-divisional except one; and, that one is the second exception.

The second exception was the Regimental Combat Team (RCT). The

RCT was assigned like a Separate Regiment, but reinforced with additional units and tailored to fit its assigned mission. The RCT could be reinforced with a variety of separate battalions. These battalions could be different types of artillery, engineer, armor, signal, medical or transportation forces and the assigned combination or mix made each RCT unique.

The 158th Infantry Regimental Combat Team was one such special unit assigned to the Panama Canal Zone for a short period in WWII. It was formed as the 158th Infantry Regiment of the Arizona National Guard and saw duty in WWI with the 40th Infantry Division. After WWI it was released from Federal Service and was reactivated in the Arizona National Guard with the 45th Infantry Division. On September 16, 1940, the Regiment was once again inducted into Federal Service, separated from the 45th Division and, on December 8, 1941 sailed from New Orleans for the Canal Zone.

The Regiment arrived on the Zone in January 1942 and this was a valuable temporary reinforcement of the Panama Mobile Force (PMF) which had lost the 33rd Regiment in December 1941 to special duty in Trinidad and other British areas of the Caribbean. The formal relief regiment for the 33rd was the 150th Infantry Regiment which also arrived in December. This provided the PMF with its 3-regiment defense configuration of the 5th, 14th and 150th and the temporarily assigned 158th.

The 158th was assigned to Ft Sherman and Ft Davis. (Fig. 1) and given the dual missions of integrat-

ing into guard duty rotations and training in and development of jungle warfare doctrine. This latter mission was an interesting assignment as most of the soldiers of the regiment were American Indians and Latinos from the US desert southwest. While serving in the Canal Zone the Latin members were used as spy hunters and small anti-sabotage units (Fig. 2). They were able to go into Panamanian towns and report on German and Japanese activities or other unusual happenings. There were 135 sites established outside the Zone in Panama and 158th troopers used their dual language skills to infiltrate a number of activities used by enemy collaborators who were reporting on Canal functions and ship transits.

When the US approached Costa Rica for a radar site on Cocos Island, a 31-man reconnaissance platoon from the 158th was sent to the island in August 1942. Additionally, a 15-man team was dispatched to Panama's Chepillo Island to establish a reporting site. This unit was successful in capturing a German one-man sub which had been reporting on shipping traveling through the Pacific entrance of the Canal.

Elements of the 158th were given vital installation guard missions and these troops were housed in tent cities in Paraiso (Fig. 3) and temporary barracks on Ft Clayton (Fig. 4).

In September of 1942 the 158th Regiment was considered uniquely jungle qualified. The command was assigned additional engineer, artillery, cavalry and medical units and prepared to transfer to the Pacific Theater through Australia for jungle

(continued on next page)



Fig. 1 158 Infantry, Camp Paraiso,
April 1942, Ft. Davis



Fig. 1 Ft Davis Last Day,
BUSHMASTERS (Patch)

action in New Guinea and island-hopping north to Japan. With these attached units, the 158th was renamed the 158th Regimental Combat Team (RCT) and actually left by ships to Brisbane Australia on January 6, 1943.

The RCT went on to earn a fierce fighting reputation in the Pacific, but its year in the Canal Zone assigned to the Panama Mobile Force of the Panama Canal Department was also most valuable. The RCT supported guard missions in the Zone, successfully conducted counter-espionage

and anti-sabotage efforts and was instrumental in developing doctrine relating to fighting in a jungle environment.

Their shoulder patch in Arizona had been a gila monster, but during jungle operations in the Canal Zone, the patch was changed to a coiled snake and the 158th RCT became known as the *Bushmasters*.

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AG Historical Section, Panama Canal Department. *Panama Mobile Force & Security Command*, Panama

Canal Zone, 1946.

Anthony, Arthur. *Bushmasters: America's Jungle Warriors of World War II*, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1987.

Karrer, Robert, and Wayne Worthington. "The 158th Infantry Regiment (Separate) in the Canal Zone 1942-1943", *Isthmian Collectors Club Journal*, December 1987.

Stanton, Shelby L. *Order of Battle, US Army World War II*, Presidio Press, 1984.



Fig.3 Company I 158 Infantry,
June 1942, Ft. Clayton



Fig. 4 Company H 158 Infantry,
Ft Clayton, May 1942

Aripex 2006 Meeting by Geoffrey Brewster

The CZSG met at Aripex 2006 in Mesa, AZ on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006. The attendance was small. Because no host appeared, member David Leeds volunteered to be, and by unanimous agreement of the three other members present was made,

honorary meeting chairman. Besides David, the members present were Jim Baxter, Geoff Brewster, and Larry Weinstock. Also present, was one visitor, a *Scott's Monthly Journal* reporter looking for insights into C. Z. philately. The absence of a host forced an improvised program of discussion of any topic desired by anyone. Topics included: the fact that *Canal Zone stamps* is almost sold out, per-

haps an updated "Check List" is appropriate, postal stationery discoveries continue, and *Scott's Monthly Journal* has accepted for publication an article on C. Z. and that they pay authors. Although you now know that philatelic writing might be profitable, we hope you prospective authors will not abandon the CZP for visions of money.

WESTPEX 2006 Meeting By Jim Crumpacker

The latest consecutive 37th annual meeting at WESTPEX of the Canal Zone Study Group was held on April 29 at the show hotel near San Francisco International Airport.

Attendees, to include members and friends, numbered 16. Among the topics discussed was the fact that Dick Salz has, after 20 years, run out of new copies of *Canal Zone Stamps* to sell; it was proposed to put the book on the

internet in order to continue to get our message out. We trust you have noticed our new CZSG web site at www.canalzonestudygroup.com/. The main subject was the great Washington, D.C. show in late May. Everything from a Canal Zone oriented tour of the National Postal Museum to the CZSG meeting on the first day of the event was discussed. Dick Bates was present with the latest information.

A lengthy and very interesting

show 'n tell followed. Oversize photos from a new source of barges and dredges operating in the Canal in the earliest days of the U.S. administration were passed around. Tom Brougham gave out copies of his latest work on CZ air mail rates and showed a number of covers including a very early one with a "CRISTOBAL CAMP" marking. He also reported that the work on the 2006 CZSG Mail Sale is proceeding at a proper pace. A good time was had by all.

President's Report

(continued from page 9)

annual mail sale on it but he has done such a good job in such a short time that we believe that it will evolve into one of the major philatelic sites on the web and be "The" place for Canal Zone stamp collectors to click onto when they need more information. He has retained all of the information that was on the original site plus he has begun to add additional topics. No doubt by the time you read this report he will have added more. At the moment some of the new subjects on it include: the 2005 Mail Sale catalogue with prices realized and color scans (I have already used it several times to look up prices before bidding on some material on ebay), dated uses of Type III overprint issue stamps (I used this as a reference in the NPM

Arago project), and some examples of Special Delivery stamps. He has started with 500 Megabytes and can easily increase the web size into the Gigabyte range. If you have not yet clicked onto the website please do so - you'll be impressed with what you see. The domain name, www.czsg.org, now points to Tom's new site so you can use either address.

Editor for the CZP

Richard Spielberg has done a fantastic job as our editor for the past eight years and he would like to share the position with one or more of our members. He is willing to alternate editing issues or help a new editor get started in other ways. If you would be able to share, or take over, this most important position, please contact Richard or myself.

National Postal Museum

Arago Project

The NPM's Arago database should be released to the public by the end of May. Most of the first part, identifying and describing the scanned Canal Zone stamps in their collection, should soon be finished but there will still be a lot of work to be done. If you would like to help out please contact me.

Advertising in the *APS Philatelist* In the past we had a multi-line ad for the CZSG in the classified section of the *APS Philatelist*. As we were never sure if it helped us reach new members we decided to drop it. However this year we decided to insert a one liner, www.czsg.org in the section CANAL ZONE. Now that we have a new website name we expect to change the one-line ad to JOIN: www.CanalZoneStudyGroup.com as this more clearly defines what we do. The total cost is only \$36.50 per year and should help attract new members.

2006 MAIL SALE

Tom Brougham is heading up the mail sale again this year and this will be the second year that he has used a professional computer program to set up the catalogue, take the bids, and prepare the lots for shipment. In addition he will have the entire catalogue on our new website with beautiful color scans. If you wish to sell some of your Canal Zone philatelic material this year then be sure to send it to Tom before the deadline.

Postal History Symposium, November 3-4, 2006

One of our members, Jeanne Stough, sent me a clipping out of Linn's announcing a call for papers for the Winton M. Blount Symposium on Postal History to be held November 3-4 at the Smithsonian Institution National Postal Museum. I then checked the NPM's website and found the complete announcement. This symposium is not restricted to papers about the U. S. Postal History and Allison Marsh, (MarshA@npm.si.edu), has assured me that they would welcome a paper covering the Canal Zone or other foreign country's postal histories. The deadline is July 1 so if you would like to contribute please contact the NPM as soon as possible.

CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2005

Revenue:	2005 Dues earned	\$8,808
	Sales of CZSG publications	203
	Advertisements in CZP	298
	Interest on checking (NOW) account	395
	Mail Sale - gross proceeds	\$ 45,561
	less: Mail sale expenses (\$ 3,352) & payments to sellers	(44,298)
	Net from mail sale:	1,263
	Total revenue	10,967
Expenses:	CZP - printing (4 issues), postage, editorial	7,988
	Membership, publicity, administration	1,017
	Cost of table at Washington 2006	500
	CZSG website maintenance	60
	Member recruitment advertisement - Amos Press	280
	Total expenses	9,845
	Revenue over expenses for the year	1,122
Net assets as of:		
	1 January	84,732
	31 December: Cash in NOW account	\$ 94,565
	Less dues received in advance	(8,711)
		\$ 85,854

Except for dues, transactions are recorded on the cash basis; as of December 31, there were no outstanding unrecorded bills.

Dues are reported as income in the year to which they relate.

Proceeds from and expenses of the mail sale are reported in the year the sale closes.

No amounts are recorded for the value of time spent by board members, officers, mail sale manager, editor, publications manager, and other volunteers.

Richard F. Larkin, Treasurer

Note on Spacing on Nos. 71b and 76a

by R.D. Bates

You learn something new everyday! An item came recently from APEX asking for an opinion on a pair of Canal Zone No. 71, with the right-hand stamp having ZONE inverted, the variety identified as No. 71b. This item is shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1 Apparent 71b with inverted ZONE in pair with normal.

This item caught my eye as weird, as a 71b it is supposed to have an SE on the right as it is known to be on position 30 LL of the first printing. This example does not have the SE or guideline. (The guideline may or may not show, depending on how the panes have been cut apart.) Examination of the overprint indicated it looked fine, so the stamp seemed to be OK but perfs added. But closer examination indicated the ZONE on

right stamp was below the ZONE on left. This caused me to measure carefully the CANAL to ZONE spacing—and it is 9.2 mm on the left and 9.6 mm on the variety. As I knew of no indication of a different spacing on the 71b variety, it seemed perhaps that the stamp is bad. Double checking in *Canal Zone Stamps* showed nothing about an unusual spacing on the inverted ZONE variety, making it seem more likely it is no good.

However, examination of a used horizontal pair shown in Fig. 2, which has the correct straight edge at right



Fig. 2 Good 71b in pair with normal showing correct SE and guideline at R.

and shows the vertical guideline, showed that it too had the 9.2 mm spacing on the left stamp and 9.6 mm on the right. All other examples that have been checked also show the 9.6 mm spacing between the CANAL and

inverted ZONE slug. It is not a very big difference, but the correct spacing on this variety is different from the regular stamp. The reproducibility is such that it is key to knowing that the pair from the APS is genuine, but with perfs added at right. With a bit of strain, you can pick up a tiny bit of guideline on two of the tips of the perforations that have been added along the right side of the right stamp.

The 12 cent flat A stamp is also known with an inverted ZONE, No. 76a. Examination of the copy shown in Fig. 3 shows that it also has the wider 9.6 mm spacing between the CANAL and inverted ZONE, and all genuine copies of 71b and 76a will have the 9.6 mm spacing.



Fig. 3 76a with 9.6 mm spacing between CANAL and inverted ZONE.

Grand Rapids CZSG Meeting

By John C. Smith

The CZSG meeting at the APS show in Grand Rapids, Michigan had 13 members attending. Our guest speaker Dr. Gary Weiss, due to back surgery, was not able to give his lecture on "How to Sell a Collection." We wish him a get-well soon. Member Joe Foley stepped up and talked about the collection the Canal Zone Postal Service had donated to the National Postal Museum. Joe and Tom Brougham have been working with the Museum identifying the many items in this large collection; several new varieties have been discovered, and the results will be published in a future CZP article. Richard Murphy gave an update on how the Publications Office is doing with sales. He

noted that the *Canal Zone Stamps* is down to only a handful of copies.

Members attending the meeting were: Glenn Staron, Melinda Johnston & family, Parker Bailey Larry Weinstock, Joe Foley, Richard Murphy, Dr. John Stunz, Jerry Dockery, Michael Baranoski, and John Smith and wife Nancy, alias Pocahontas.

One noteworthy cover found at the show was a Scott No. 141 FDC with the signature of Dr. James Zetek, the scientist in charge of the Biological area on Barro Colorado Island in Gatun Lake, also the signatures of both stamp designers, Meade Bolton and Leo Page. The cost was a very fair \$8.00.

It was a very enjoyable and well attended show with approximately 140 dealers.

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WANTED - CZP Editor

volunteer to take over or share duties of preparing for publication, the *Canal Zone Philatelist*. Please contact Editor for further information.

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